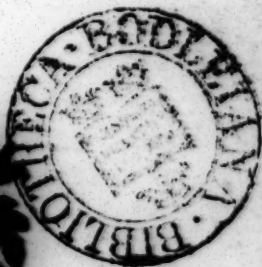


ADDRESS 3 TO THE OPPOSITION.

Omnes omnium caritates Patria una complexa est.
TYLL. OFFIC.

By W— C—, of Oxford, Esq;



L O N D O N :

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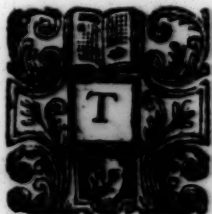
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A N
A D D R E S S
T O T H E
O P P O S I T I O N .

G E N T L E M E N ,

 H E glorious Spirit you have exerted in Defence of our Rights and Liberties, your unbias'd Integrity, and steady Adherence to your Country's Cause, at a Time when every Allurement was made use of, all Methods that could be devis'd, practis'd to divert you from the noble Pursuit, merits the utmost Thanks of all true and hearty *Britons*.

book

B

Who

Who has a Soul warm in the true Interest of the Nation, and will not take the earliest Opportunity of congratulating you on the Success, that has at length crown'd your Endeavours, and afforded us the pleasing Prospect of happier Days and better Times. The Hour, the wish'd-for Hour is come. Now we may hope to see a Stop put to that fatal Corruption, which, like a Canker, has gnaw'd the very Vitals of the Realm.

Bribery and Venality have long triumph'd, all Ranks and Conditions have been affected with their Venom. But those Banes to our Freedom and Constitution will henceforth, we may reasonably conclude, be driven out of the Land: Reasonably, I say, Gentlemen, for what room have we to doubt your Disinterestedness, Honour and Sincerity? Your Conduct, the whole Tenour of your Actions have made them manifest. You have already stood

stood proof against powerful and persuasive Temptations ; Wealth and Honours courted your Acceptance, but you nobly postponed them to the Wellfare of the Nation : Whilst a corrupt and hireling Crew sacrificed our Rights and Liberties, while every Consideration submitted to sordid Interest, with the utmost Horror and Concern you beheld *Britain* groan under the Tyranny and Oppression of a rapacious and unsated M---—r ; with aching Hearts you saw her exposed to the Insults of a merciless and plundering Enemy, and to the Treachery of a secret and inveterate Foe ; a Foe, of all the most dangerous, as the Stabs that proceed from that Quarter are secretly and suddenly given, and therefore less liable to be avoided. When those, who by their Duty and Function ought to have maintain'd our Right, and defended our Cause, remain'd inactive Spectators of our Misfortune and Losses, (I would not charge them with conniving at them) ; when many

of the vast Multitude employ'd in Stations of the greatest Moment and Importance, seem'd eager after Wealth, and regardless of their Country, you were struggling to recover her lost Glories; when you perceiv'd our Debts increas'd, our Trade reduced, Taxes grown exorbitant, and our Credit brought even to Beggary, your honest *British* Souls could no longer bear it; you saw it was high time to make the strongest Efforts to remove the Cause of these Misfortunes; you have bravely succeeded, and from your better Management and Behaviour we must date the Æra of our Happiness.

If other Motives, except those of succouring your distressed Country, and healing her Grievances and Distractions, had actuated your Resolves; if ill-placed Ambition, false Thirst of Honours, Desire of Gain, Disgust, Revenge, or personal Pique had hurried you to bring about this Change, unhappy we must have continued, more
unhappy,

unhappy, if possible, than before. Our Lot would have been near a-kin to that of the *Sicilians*, and if a *Dionysius* must be succeeded by a *Dionysius*, we might as well, with the old Woman of *Sicily*, pray for the Continuance of him we have felt, lest a worse should take his Place. But Change of Measures not of Men, we may rest satisfied, was the Principle that directed your Aim.

How pleasing the Reflection, how agreeable the Thought! *Britain* will have those to govern her who are willing and able to cherish and protect her: Her Liberties, acquired at the Price of so much Blood, will no longer be trampled on, but supported and made secure; speedy Vengeance will be poured on the Heads of those, who, taking advantage of the Misconduct of our M-----rs, have plunder'd and insulted us; our Name will cease to be the Jest of Foreigners, and distant

stant Nations will once more tremble
at the *British* Arms.

As the Majority of the H-----se of
C-----ns have thrown off the Yoke of
Servitude, since Independency once
again seems established, we doubt
not but it will be your earliest Care to
preserve it so. Now is the time to
accomplish what you have heretofore
so earnestly push'd for; now may you
be assured of obtaining what Venali-
ty and vile Dependence some time since
prevented; free Parliaments are the De-
light of good M-----rs, as they are
the Terror of bad.

Those who go into the Service of
their Country, and lay down as a
firm and solid Foundation, a pure and
sincere Intention of acting uprightly
in their Station, who, like *Regulus*,
prefer the national Concern to all o-
thers, who are determined to pay re-
gard to no Recommendation but Merit,
and respect no Relations but of Virtue
and

and Abilities, will never oppose the Freedom of Parliaments: Men like these are Vigorous in asserting it; and it redounds to their Glory. What can be a greater Satisfaction, than to have our Actions approv'd by Men of unbiass'd Integrity? and uninfluenced Minds Is not the Applause of such, the surest Proof of their Goodness? Is it not the noblest and most authentic Monument by which our Fame can be transmitted to Posterity?

Those indeed who enter upon the Administration of public Affairs, having in their View the enriching themselves out of the public Treasure, aggrandising their Families at the Expence of the Nation, enlarging the Fortunes of their Adherents by authorising them to defraud a Fleet or Army, consider free Parliaments as the Avengers of an injured and enraged Nation. Their Rapines are not then likely to pass unregarded, nor their Crimes escape unpunished. When Parliaments
are

are thus constituted, Men who abuse a Nation, have recourse to Corruption, as their best Asylum ; knowing that Dependence is their only Screen.

The most certain and effectual Method to remove this Malignancy that has lately infected our S-----e, and the best way to render it impracticable for any succeeding Minister to play the same Game that has for some Time been practis'd upon us, will be to bring in a Bill (as the major Part of you attempted, tho' in vain, the last S-----n of the last P-----t) to limit the Number of P-----ce Men in the H-----se of C-----ns ; and it is, I believe, the sincere Desire of all Well-wishers to their Country, that the Bill be made strong and nervous, and no Opportunity given to make void the real Design and Intention of it. What signifies a M-----r of the H-----se of C-----ns being obliged to quit his Seat one Week, for accepting a Pl-----ce, when he may assume it perhaps the next.

I am

I am sensible M-----al Hirelings
and Advocates will contend, "P---ce-
" Men may be good Patriots, the
" possessing a P----ce does not imply
" Disregard to the Welfare of the
" Nation; it is possible to discharge
" the Duty of a good R-----ve and
" enjoy a comfortable Post." I shall
not dispute the Possibility of the
thing. Such an Union may perchance
happen, tho' Experience, the Mother
of Wisdom, has sufficiently cautioned
us not to lay too great Stress on such
a Junction. How few of the Tribe
can be pick'd out, who dared to
speak or vote otherwise than they
were commanded! But supposing the
thing very probable, and admit we for
once, we stand a tolerable Chance to
have the Patriot blended in the Pl---ce-
Man; yet to what Purpose run we
this Hazard? All wise States as well
as wise Men will prefer a Certainty,
or what comes nearest to it, before an
Uncertainty. Pl---ce-Men have many

Baits laid to insnare them, many Temptations to allure them from discharging their Duty. Why, therefore, should a State intrust those with the Disposal of their Liberties, whose Circumstances might oblige them to postpone a public Good to a private Advantage? Where's the Policy of chusing Men, who must be endued with Fortitude and Resolution scarce attainable by Mankind, if they faithfully and conscientiously discharge their Trust? when we are blest with Gentlemen every way equal to them in Parts and Understanding, and entirely free from all Clogs or Influence to divert them from the Pursuit of those Actions that tend to the Honour and Safety of the Kingdom. We are not yet reduced to so low an Ebb, but we have still remaining among us Gentlemen enough who will pursue the Footsteps of our revered Forefathers, and who would represent us, fired with glorious Zeal of securing our Rights, our Liberties and Fortunes; who

who would go into the H—se of
C—ns without expecting or de-
siring any other Profit or Recompence
than that which accrues from the blest
Reflection of discharging their Duty
as honest loyal *Englishmen*.

Since then there are disinterested
Gentlemen ready and able to serve us
in Parliament, forasmuch as we have
been melancholy Witnesses of the
many Misfortunes resulting from
Pl—ce-Men and Dependents fill-
ing up great Part of the H—se of
C—ns, seeing their being permitted
to sit there in Numbers cannot be pro-
ductive of any good End or Purpose,
but may possibly entail many Calami-
ties on this Nation; who but Pl--ce-
Men or wretched Dependents will
pretend to oppose a Bill for limiting
the Number of Pl---ce-Men in the
H—se of C—ns.

The same Objections that have been
urged against Pl--ce-Men sitting in

the H—se of C—ns in Numbers,
will hold good in relation to P—rs.
They have the same Tyes for the most
part incumbent on them to support
dirty M—al Jobs, if ever there
should arise a wicked M—r, who
should set them on Works of that Na-
ture. They will therefore, Gentle-
men, I hope, be considered by you
in the same Light as Pl—ce-Men,
and the Limitation will extend to
them also.

The chief Instrument of Depen-
dency being removed, when you have
secured us from all future Apprehen-
sions of a venal prostituted H—se
of C—ns, when you have effec-
tually provided that Pl—ce-Men or
P—rs shall never sit there in Num-
bers sufficient to aid and countenance
the Designs of a wicked and pernici-
ous Minister, and endanger our Con-
stitution and Liberties; when this
Foundation of Independency shall be
laid, your Reason, Gentlemen, will
suggest

suggest to you, the next thing requisite to render the Structure firm and lasting, will be repealing the Act for S——l P——ts.

Our wary Ancestors, to whose provident Care we owe the Preservation of that Liberty we at present enjoy, consider'd the Frequency of new Parliaments as inseparable from the Nature of Parliaments themselves. So tenacious were they heretofore in this Respect, that before the Conquest, we read of Parliaments sitting twice a year, and new ones constantly chose at the Expiration of that Term. This Custom was likewise continued after the Conquest; and every one must have heard, it was accounted by no means the smallest Blessing which accrued to this Nation by the glorious Revolution; *viz.* That new Parliaments should be chose once in three Years, and no Parliaments should continue longer than three Years. Wherefore then were our Progenitors thus anxious
to

to prevent long P——ts? Why has not one only, but succeeding Ages so much insisted on having P——ts under this Regulation? Did it proceed from Whims and fantastical Notions that then possess'd the Minds of scrupulous and over-careful Men? Was every Age deceived, and vainly busied in endeavouring to prevent Evils that were never likely to happen? Or was this Care the Effect of certain Knowledge and Assurance, that long P——ts might be dangerous to the Constitution? I am inclined to think this great Concern, so often exemplify'd, arose from the last Consideration; and, I hope, it will receive the Sanction of your Approbation. We are, Gentlemen, under no Apprehension of your Refusal to imitate your glorious Predecessors, the renowned Champions of Liberty. From your known Attachment to her amiable Cause, we expect to see the Abolition of S——l, and Restoration of Triennial P——ts. It will be acting agreeably to our ancient Constitution:

stitution: The Nation has long desir'd it, and desir'd it with Justness. When this shall take Effect, R-----es will become more assiduous for the publick Welfare, less inclin'd to favour pernicious Projects, and more mindful of their Duty. As they're assured it is in the Power of their Constituents to shew a speedy Resentment, they'll carefully avoid acting or voting repugnant to their Sense and Satisfaction. This will be a Check on their Behaviour, and keep them steady to their Trust, tho' their deprav'd Inclinations might incline them to swerve from it. Vain will be all future Attempts to infringe our Rights, or molest our Liberties: This Regulation of Parliament will render them inviolably secure from that Quarter which alone is capable of affecting them. If ever we are reduc'd to a State of Wretchedness, if ever we are depriv'd of our valuable Liberties, 'tis P-----ts alone which can atchieve the cursed Deed. The Policies, the Arts of the most consummate *Machiavel*

would

would prove ineffectual without their Concurrence: The Wretch who entertain'd any other Method of encompassing it, would soon meet the just Reward of his Deserts. Our Chains must be forged by ourselves whenever we wear them. The ambitious and designing Man, that would sink us into Slavery, must gain to his Purpose the Majority of the Representatives of the Nation. If then, on their good or ill Management depends the Preservation or Loss of all that can be truly dear to Man, can those be condemn'd who are diffident of trusting so vast a Charge for too great a Length of Time? When the ALL that we have in the World is intrusted to their Care, does not Prudence require, that in return for the Honour and Confidence we have reposed in them, frequent Proofs of their Fidelity and unbiass'd Integrity be given us? Who can justly say, three Years is too quick a Revolution of Time to inquire into their Conduct, to remove or continue the Trust, according to their
their

their Deserts. A just Steward yearly submits to Examination and Inspection with the same Alacrity as if a longer Period was allowed him. Those R——es who are induced to become so, in order to serve their Country, redress her Grievances, support her Trade from foreign Spoilers, and her Constitution from domestic Invaders, will never complain, their Office too soon determines. Conscious of their own Uprightness, determin'd to adhere to Virtue, Honesty and their Country's Welfare, they fear not resuming that Charge they have bravely endeavour'd to maintain. The politic and well-judging *Romans* with a new Year had new Consuls. Continuance of Power, by degrees, lessens the Obligations due to Electors; and the puffed-up Magistrate insensibly forgets the Designs for which his Constituents appointed him.

If there be any Gentlemen who go into the H---se of C---ns to drive a Trade there, and pursue in their Words and Actions no other Interest than their own, to speak for Fees, and vote for Places, *they* will hardly be convinc'd of the Necessity of calling new P-----ts. A long P-----t I confess best suits the Inclinations of such. If a Seat in the H---se of C---ns, like a Patent-place, was to be held for Life, I imagine Gentlemen of their Turn of Mind would scarce start any Objections; and we need not dive deep to fetch up the Reason; *they* are convinc'd within themselves, their Proceedings can never intitle them to re-obtain the same Trust. Sycophants and Harpies, like these, reduced the neighbouring Nations to the deplorable Servitude they at present labour under. *France* had many powerful Princes and Dukes, who exercis'd great Authority; *she* had the Assembly of the three Estates: Add to this,

as a further Guard, the Parliament of *Paris*, a Parliament endued with great Power and many Privileges, and accustomed to oppose the arbitrary Designs of the encroaching Court; but when the People suffered themselves to be cajoled by false Speeches, when their ALL was credulously yielded up to the Direction and Management of their Directors, and those Directors became a venal hireling Crew, what other Consequence could be expected than Loss of Liberty? The Policy and Intrigues of State Ministers has quite impair'd the Authority of their Nobles; the Assembly of the Estates have never been convened since 1604. The Parliament of *Paris*, that renown'd Bulwark of *Gallic* Liberty, that once awful Assemblage of Patriots and Worthies, what is it now become? Alas! the Echo of Ministerial Dictates! the Shadow of Liberty, without the least Substance! So apt is the best regulated Form of Government to be undermined by ambitious and

designing Statesmen! Should not every free State therefore be careful to prevent the least Encroachment that's aim'd at Liberty, and sedulous to remove the smallest Blemish that tends to corrupt her Purity? We have been pester'd with Reprobates and Miscreants, who have sought to devour Property, and erase Liberty: But it has been your Study, Gentlemen, to defend her from Oppression, and preserve her unpolluted. From these Assurances we ground our Hopes, that T——l P———ts will certainly take Place, and Independency thereby so eternally fix'd, that no Arts or Machination, no Bribery or Corruption, will be able to overthrow it. When you have firmly settled this grand important Point, when you have sufficiently secured the main Pillar of our Constitution; your Inspection, Gentlemen, will extend to the many other enormous Grievances that have long, too long, afflicted us.

The just and necessary War, we at present are engaged in, has been conducted in a shameful and ignominious Manner; vast Sums have been expended in fitting out Armaments, whose Expeditions have been as fruitless as secret; little Care has been taken to send Re-inforcements where necessary, and likely to prove most effectual; our Merchants have been plunder'd in Sight of our Coasts; our Enemies suffer'd to triumph with Impunity. These Proceedings cry aloud for Redress; and, I imagine, Gentlemen, you'll think it necessary to pursue different Measures in the Prosecution of the War. It is high time to convince our Foes, we have not drawn our Sword in vain. Let them not presume on our Delays, and thence conclude, they shall baffle our Designs, and escape our Vengeance. It behoves us to act with Vigour and Resolution; and by giving an important Blow, gain a speedy and sure Satisfaction for the Injuries we have suffer'd.

suffer'd, and the Insults we have borne. Our truly *British* A——I, who has so gloriously signaliz'd himself in the *W---t-I---s*, would long ere this have made our Foes feel the full Measure of our just Resentment, if his Power and Force had been equal to his Will and Abilities. If, therefore, we send a sufficient and timely Re-inforcement to that noble Gentleman, and bravely and vigorously exert ourselves in other Places: If we no longer permit our Ships idly to parade in the *Chanel*, but employ them in a Way more suitable to the *English* Taste and Genius; we may soon expect an honourable End of a long expensive War, and due Reparation for the Damages we have sustain'd. It has been remark'd, the *English* lose in the Cabinet what they gain in the Field. But if we have formerly been so misled; 'tis time to avoid the Error. Let not (should our Arms be crown'd with Success) Negotiations render them useless. Let us treat Sword in Hand, firmly resolved never
to

to sheath it, till we have obtained ample Satisfaction for all our Losses and full Security of a free and uninterrupted Commerce. If I may be allowed to speak my Sentiments, I cannot think it will be prudent in us to rest this Security of free Navigation and Trade on Conventions and Treaties only. Experience has shewn the small Regard which has been paid to those Tyes; they have been looked upon as binding, no longer than Necessity accompanied them. As Hostage of their plighted Faith, and for our more solid Satisfaction, it would be better to insist on the Surrender of some proper Place, whereby we might be able to defend our Ships from all future Outrage and Insult. This were to settle Things on a sure and lasting Foundation.

The securing our Wool from being transported unwrought into foreign Countries, will be thought worthy of your Cognizance in due Time. I shall

not

not pretend to expatiate on the Necessity of keeping it at home, since it has already been, by a Pamphlet called *The Draper*, clearly and fully demonstrated. If, Gentlemen, you find it practicable to reduce the Taxes laid on Leather, Candles, Soap, and other Necessaries, by taking away unnecessary P——ns, abolishing *Sine Cures*, or whatever other Methods may seem meet to you, we doubt not of your ready Concurrence, since the poorer Sort of the Pepole, on whom these Taxes press very hard, will thereby be greatly relieved.

Altho' domestic Grievances more emphatically strike us, and demand our more immediate Care and Prevention, yet we must attend to those Dangers, which tho' a little removed may endanger the State, if not timely prevented. Our foreign Negotiations have not been managed with that Dexterity a true *Briton* could wish; *France* has overmatch'd us, and her Influence
over

over foreign Courts is greater than squares with our Interest, and if not opposed may be dangerous to the Repose of *Europe*. Who is not alarm'd at the important Point they have lately gain'd? Who not shock'd at their unparallel'd Impudence in publicly avowing it. Could the *English* have tamely, and without Resentment hear the Marquis *F---n* declare, *At length we have chosen an Emperor!* As if *France* had sent her *Congé D'Elire*, and the Electors were obliged to abide by it. But giving to the Empire a Head who is entirely at their Devotion, is but one Step toward accomplishing the ambitious Views of *France*. The *C---l*, who, like *Cæsar*, thinks he has done nothing, while any thing remains for him to do, seems intent on aggrandising his Country to some lasting Purpose, and is willing to lay a Foundation which nothing shall overthrow. Conscious that *England* and the House of *A---a* are the main Obstacles who can thwart his Designs, no Wonder

attempts to deprive them of the Power
to obstruct him. He has already stir-
red up Instruments to destroy the
House of *A——a*; and if we permit
him to effect it, what follows but we
suffer the Fate of *Ulysses*, and enjoy
the comfortable Satisfaction of being
at last destroyed. We have no reason
to doubt his good Intentions toward
us; Sending Fleets into the *W——t-
I——s* to harraß and perplex us;
protecting our Enemies in the *Medi-
terranean* from our just Resentment
(an Action contrary to the Law of
Nations, an open Violation of Faith
and Treaties) are plain Indications
how He stands affected to us. These
Things, Gentlemen, have not escaped
your Knowledge and Observance, nor
will you, I am perswaded, suffer them
to pass unregarded. We are bound
by the most solemn Treaties and
Guarranties to assist the Queen of
H——y. Our Interest and Preser-
vation obliges us to fulfill our Engage-
ments, and Heaven itself seems to
have

have pointed out a favourable Opportunity. This valiant Queen, with a Magnanimity and Resolution scarce to be matched in ancient or modern History, has bravely withstood the fierce Attacks of her united Enemies, and has lately gained no small Advantages over them. Let us lay hold of this favourable Occasion, and by granting her some effectual Succours, enable her to compleat the Work she has lately enter'd on with Success.

Bavaria will find Employment enough to defend his own Territories from Fire and Sword. The *French* Army is at present greatly reduced, and tho' her other Enemies are numerous and mighty, yet with our Aid she may be powerful enough to baffle and withstand them. It is more than probable our Example may prevail on a neighbouring State, and a Confederacy may once more be form'd, which may destroy the aspiring Hopes of tow'ring *France*.

I shall

I shall conclude this Address with
 hearty and sincere Wishes, that your
 Councils may be attended with Suc-
 cess. May no Party-Heats or Dif-
 fusions divert you from the Pursuit
 of the public Concerns; may you all
 unite for the Good of the common
 Cause; and may you be the happy
 Instruments of restoring Freedom,
 Plenty, and Satisfaction to this Isle.

I am, Gentlemen,

With all due Respect,

Your obedient humble Servant,

F I N I S

